

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7352

BILL NUMBER: HB 1453

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 4, 2009

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Vote Centers.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Burton

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill requires the Secretary of State (SOS) to designate as a vote center pilot county a county in which a natural disaster has made a substantial part of the county's voting systems unusable if the county applies for designation as a vote center pilot county.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary-* The SOS and the Election Division would have additional administrative duties to designate additional pilot vote centers. The agencies would be able to carry out the provisions of the bill within their existing level of resources.

Background Information- The SOS reverted \$155,800 and the Indiana Election Division reverted \$23,000 to the General Fund at the end of FY 2008.

Tippecanoe and Wayne Counties were the two original pilot vote center counties established in time for the 2007 municipal election under P.L. 164-2006.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: *Summary-* The establishment of vote centers could reduce the expenditures needed to conduct an election, including payment of fewer poll workers and printing of poll books. However, start-up expenses, such as the establishment of an electronic poll book database, could offset some of the potential savings. The impact on local expenditures would depend on the adoption of

ordinances by county election boards (under unanimous approval) and resolutions of approval by both the county executive and county fiscal body.

Background Information- Tippecanoe County paid their vote center inspectors \$170 per day during the 2007 election, partially to include increased training time (four hours), versus \$160 for a conventional election. Two of the larger expenditures for Tippecanoe County included \$10,750 for electronic polling software and mail voter postcards at \$12,465.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Secretary of State, Election Division.

Local Agencies Affected: Counties.

Information Sources: Linda Phillips, Tippecanoe County Clerk, 765-423-9326; FY 2008 Close-Out General Fund Reversion Summary.

Fiscal Analyst: Chris Baker, 317-232-9851.